PREFACE

IN 1904, when Mr. Sehurz was nearing the end of the second volume, and was hoping to finish the first draft of the third volume iir a year or two, he consented to the serial publication of parts of what he had written* The selection, special alteration and proof-reading of these rapidly appearing parts, and also the preparation of the first volume for the press— these and many incidental matters claimed the right of way and much impeded his progress with the third volume. When* his work was abruptly terminated he had reached only the first problems of Grant's administration and had barely passed the threshold of his important services iir the Senate, His manuscript is printed as he left it. Had he lived to complete his third volume, in which he hoped to reach at least the end of Hayes* administration, it would doubtless have been revised and condensed.

It was a serious question to decide how to fill out the third volume and how to treat the remainder of Mr. Schurz's career. Various projects were carefully considered. All except the one that has been followed, were found to be impracticable because they either did not suit present requirements or would interfere with probable later publications that ought to be kept distinct from the *Reminiscences.* Fortunately Mr. Schurz had preserved a practically complete set of his speeches and important public writings during all the later period, which are comprehensive, interesting and valuable, historically. He had also preserved a correspondence of many thousands of letters on matters of public interest. It was accordingly decided that it would be most in harmony with the *Reminiscences* and most welcome to the readers who have followed Mr. Schurz's narrative, if this

vast material should be carefully examined with a view to making a summary sketch of the leading features of his political career after 1869.